

# Introduce students to the new space prior to moving to build familiarity and minimise challenging situations

A suggestion for implementing the strategy  
'Involve students in transition to new space'  
from the Guide: [ILEs](#)

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## **Includes:**

- Prepare for change
- Use a visual timeline
- Visit the new space regularly
- Practise routines prior to moving

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Planning innovative learning environments \(ILEs\)](#)

Strategy: [Involve students in transition to new space](#)

Suggestion: [Introduce students to the new space prior to moving to build familiarity and minimise challenging situations](#)

Date

07 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/planning-innovative-learning-environments-iles/introduce-students-to-the-new-space-prior-to-moving-to-build-familiarity-and-minimise-challenging-situations](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/planning-innovative-learning-environments-iles/introduce-students-to-the-new-space-prior-to-moving-to-build-familiarity-and-minimise-challenging-situations)

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## Prepare for change



Source:

[Enabling e-Learning](#)

<https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Snapshots-of-learning/Snapshots-of-Learning/Hapara-Teacher-Dashboard-and-Google-Apps/Inclusion-in-the-classroom>

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## Use a visual timeline



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

[View full image \(693 KB\)](#)

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## Visit the new space regularly

- ✓ Arrange for students to visit the new spaces on several occasions before moving in.
- ✓ Show photographs or videos of the new spaces and talk about what will happen in them.
- ✓ Prepare a scrapbook on the new space for students to familiarise themselves with how it looks, and where they can work in the space.
- ✓ Discuss any concerns the students may have about the move and address these directly.
- ✓ Use social stories to practice routines, systems, and ways of working.
- ✓ Visit locations in the new space that may be different to the current classroom space (for example, work spaces, the gymnasium, the cloakroom).

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## Practise routines prior to moving

Lucy Fong explains how they trialled different uses of space by converting single classrooms, prior to building their new flexible learning spaces.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/142187311>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Enabling e-Learning \(NZ\)](https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Teaching/Innovative-learning-environments/Adapting-single-cell-classrooms-to-create-an-innovative-learning-environment)

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